



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

# News Release

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## **FUGITIVE IN \$8 MILLION KOREAN STOCK FRAUD NABBED BY ICE AGENTS IN NEW JERSEY**

*Arrest Results from Collaboration by ICE, U.S. VISIT, & Interpol*

OLD TAPPAN, N.J.—Acting on information supplied by Interpol, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in New Jersey arrested Heung Joo Kim, a man wanted by the Republic of Korea for embezzling stock and currency valued at \$8 million. The Korean national is the subject of an Interpol “Red Notice.” He is now in ICE custody facing a deportation hearing and an extradition request from the Republic of Korea.

The arrest is the result of a cooperative effort between a special Compliance Enforcement Unit (CEU) at ICE headquarters in Washington, D.C., Interpol, US VISIT, and the New Jersey ICE office. Deputy Special Agent in Charge Thomas Manifase explained that the CEU discovered Kim was living in the United States when agents cross-referenced fingerprints received from Interpol and Korean authorities against the US VISIT Automated Biometric Identification System. Kim’s fingerprints were stored in the US VISIT database when he entered the U.S. as a visitor in December of 2004. Once agents in New Jersey were notified of the match, they were able to track Kim down and arrest him at his residence in Old Tappan.

Manifase said, “This is the third arrest nationally of a foreign fugitive under the ICE - Interpol enforcement initiative, and it shows that cooperation among international police agencies makes it difficult for criminals to stay below the radar.” In May of 2005 fugitive David Kricheli was captured in Buffalo, N.Y. based on an Interpol “Red Notice.” Kricheli was the first person captured under the initiative. In September Ismael Venegas-Sarmiento was arrested based on an outstanding fraud warrant from the Colombian government.

The investigation began last month when ICE’s Compliance Enforcement Unit (CEU) in Washington, D.C. received several thousand fingerprints from Interpol relating to international fugitives and convicted criminals. The CEU immediately began cross-referencing the Interpol fingerprints against the fingerprints and other biometric data contained in Homeland Security’s U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) program. US-VISIT collects travel information and biometric identifiers such as fingerprints to verify the identity of visitors upon their arrival and departure.

### # ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*